CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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LETTER DATED 20 SEPTEMBER 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UKRAINE ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF UKRAINE CONCERNING RESUMPTION OF NUCLEAR TESTS BY FRANCE

I have the honour to forward to you the text of the Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine of 15 September 1995 concerning resumption of the nuclear tests by France.

Could you, please, take the appropriate steps to register this document as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament, and to have it distributed to all member States and non-member States delegations taking part in the work of the Conference.

(Signed): Olexander Slipchenko
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Ukraine
Head of delegation

GE.95-63877 (E)

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expresses its deep concern at the fact that on 5 September 1995 France carried out the first of a series of nuclear tests in the Southern Pacific.

Realization of the intention to resume nuclear tests cannot but cause anxiety on the part of Ukraine, especially in the light of the decisive steps taken by its Government in the field of nuclear disarmament.

In adopting a principled decision to acquire a non-nuclear status our State has hoped that other countries would take its example into consideration.

Ending the moratorium and resumption of the tests do not correspond to the agreement reached at the 1995 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) Review and Extension Conference as to the exercise of the "utmost restraint" by the nuclear States. Such actions would not contribute as well to the strengthening of the international regime of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Actions of this kind might call into question success of the process of negotiations on concluding the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which would, in its turn, slow down implementation of other measures in the field of nuclear disarmament.

Ukraine calls upon France again to reconsider its decision on nuclear tests and, in conjunction with other nuclear States, make systematic efforts in order to achieve the complete ban on nuclear tests, as soon as possible.

15 September 1995

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